



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

July 19, 2013

By Electronic Mail

Mr. Tom Nash
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 2621
PO Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Re: FOIA 2013-02-018

Dear Mr. Nash,

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of the Treasury dated January 29, 2013, seeking “[e]mails containing both ‘platinum’ and ‘debt ceiling’ between January 14, 2012 and January 14, 2013.”

Enclosed with this letter we are providing 70 pages of non-privileged material identified in response to your request. We are withholding 329 pages in accordance with subsection (b)(5) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. 552, which exempts from disclosure “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency.” Specifically, the withheld materials constitute communications that are protected by the deliberative process and attorney-client privileges.


This completes the Department’s response to your above-referenced FOIA request. Should you choose to appeal this response, you must do so within 35 days from the date of this letter. Your appeal must be in writing, must be signed by you, and should contain the rationale for the appeal. Your appeal should be addressed to:

Freedom of Information Act Appeal
Director, Disclosure Services, DO
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20220

The appeal should specify the date of your initial request and the date of this letter. If possible, please provide a copy of your request and this letter.

No fees were incurred in processing your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Sonfield", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian J. Sonfield
Deputy Assistant General Counsel
General Law & Regulation

Enclosure